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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/462,755	01/14/2000	KOJI SHIRAKI	MIT-B895	5476

30132 7590 02/20/2002

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EXAMINER

GRAY, JILL M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1774

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DATE MAILED: 02/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	SHIRAKI ET AL.	
	<b>Application No.</b>	09/462,755	
	<b>Examiner</b>	Jill M Gray	<b>Art Unit</b> 1774

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 75-148 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 75-148 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
    a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:  
        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
    \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in response to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group 1, claim(s) 75-89, 99, 105-110, and 112, drawn to a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material, a hardened reinforcing material and method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 2, claim(s) 90, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 3, claim(s) 91, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 4, claim(s) 92, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 5, claim(s) 93-97, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 6, claim(s) 98, 100-101, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 7, claim(s) 102, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 8, claim(s) 103, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

Group 9, claim(s) 104, drawn to a method for producing a fiber-compounded hydraulic reinforcing material.

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Group 10, claim(s) 111, 113-122, 125-127, drawn to a method for reinforcing/repairing a construction.

Group 11, claim(s) 123-124 and 128-131, drawn to a method for reinforcing/repairing a construction or natural object.

Group 12, claim(s) 132, drawn to a method for reinforcing/repairing a construction or natural object.

Group 13, claim(s) 133, drawn to a method for reinforcing/repairing a construction or natural object.

Group 14, claim(s) 134, drawn to a method for reinforcing/repairing a surface of a construction or natural object.

Group 15, claim(s) 135-142, 144-145 drawn to a structural element and method for preparing a structural element.

Group 16, claim(s) 143, drawn to a method for preparing a structural element.

Group 17, claim(s) 146-147, drawn to a method for preparing a structural element.

Group 18, claim(s) 148, drawn to a method for preparing a structural element.

The inventions listed as Groups 1-18 do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical features of reinforcing fiber, organic binder and unhardened hydraulic inorganic powder does not provide a contribution over the prior art as seen by the teachings in the abstract of Japanese Patent abstract 62-226848. Additionally, it should be noted that the present application contains multiple products and multiple processes wherein applicants are allowed only a single invention or group of inventions.

A telephone call was not made to applicant's representative due to the complexity of this requirement.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

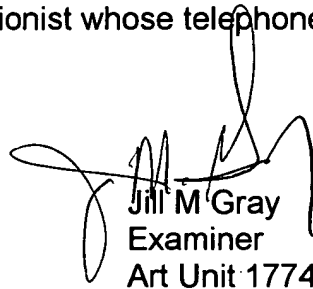
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Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jill M Gray whose telephone number is 703.308.2381. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia Kelly can be reached on 703.308.0449. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703.305.5408 for regular communications and 703.305.3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.308.0651.



Jill M Gray  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1774

jmg  
February 18, 2002